

## PSC NEWS Missouri Public Service Commission

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## PSC MODIFIES METHOD OF TEMPORARY RATE REDUCTION FOR OSAGE WATER COMPANY CUSTOMERS

Jefferson City (November 21, 2001)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has modified how the Osage Water Company will make customers whole for unlawfully charging its customers higher water rates before the water company was authorized to do so.

In an order issued on November 6, 2001, the Missouri Public Service Commission found that the Osage Water Company began charging its customers higher rates before it was authorized to do so. The Commission ordered the water company to lower its rates to the previously-authorized level for a period of time in order to make customers whole for the unlawful overcharges.

The Osage Water Company filed a modified proposal which the Commission has adopted. Instead of a temporary rate reduction, the Osage Water Company has been ordered to calculate the dollar amount of the overcharges for each water customer that was connected before July 26, 2001, for the months of May, June and July 2001. The Osage Water Company will then credit each account for the overcharge during the months of December 2001, January 2002 and February 2002.

The Osage Water Company is to file a report with the Commission by December 14, 2001, showing the total dollar amount of the overcharges and how it was calculated. The report will also state the total dollar amount of overcharges to customers who are no longer customers of the Osage Water Company and how that number was calculated. The report is to set forth the manner in which the company plans to attempt to locate and reimburse those former customers who were overcharged.

The Osage Water Company serves approximately 220 water customers near Osage Beach, Missouri.